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December 21, 2021

NOTICE: To the Heirs of Spanish & Mexican Land Grants
RE: Coalition Report – Update 15 – Dec 18, 2021

Below is an update from the Coalition:

This week we sent a press release to Chris Tomlinson, a noted columnist for the Houston Chronicle and the San Antonio Express-News. He has a lot of experience in oil and gas matters, and his reports are always very incisive. We also sent a press release to Jaie Avila of WOAI-TV, Channel 4, in San Antonio, an investigative reporter highly regarded in this area. However, he has national and statewide credentials having covered the O.J. Simpson Trial and The Branch Davidian standoff, among many other high-profile cases. We are certain that at some point he will take an active interest in our cause.

You may have also seen the recent postings by the Voice of Change Network about the ongoing extensive investigation and plans by IRLEAKS that will be the biggest exposure of the crimes by State of Texas officials and their cronies against the original Texas land owners and their descendant/heirs to be called “The Texas Papers,” this in addition to the work our coalition is doing. It is only a matter of time before this becomes national and international news. The time has come for Texas officials to be held accountable, to put pressure on them to perform their responsibilities, and pay the heirs their rightful reparation damages.

One question that comes up continually from lawyers, interested persons, and even our heirs is, “What, under the law, gives the adjudicated heirs the Right (not Title) to unclaimed mineral estates?” Years ago, Mrs. Eileen McKenzie Fowler’s HEIRS Committee asked her to put the answer, as best she knew, in a one or two-page legal brief citing the state law that gives us this right. She never did so. At one of the HB724 Commission, in Austin, in 2014, she was asked that question by a commissioner, and she said only, “It is in the law.”

Perhaps she was relying on the judgment of her former law partner Houston Judge, Félix Salazar. It was his opinion that the heirs had that right, and helped Mrs. Fowler develop the adjudication system for us to be declared legal and file claims. He passed away and never documented his opinion. Another eminent judge, Ricardo H. Garcia, in a hearing in Zapata, stated his opinion that there was no doubt we had this right. His comments are documented in one of our cases that came before him. This is circumstantial evidence but noteworthy.

During the HB724 Commission hearings in 2014 the commissioners evaded this question time and time again. They refused to get a State Attorney General’s opinion confirming our legal right, and to also have state personnel research this matter as the HB724 law authorized them to do.

Our impression was that they knew our heirs had the right, but since Texas never set up an accountability system, failed to put revenue collected from the petroleum companies in trust, and never kept track of production records, the easiest thing for them to do is to refuse our claims. The commission did a great job of warming their seats for a full year, then published a confusing, baseless, meaningless, and deficient final report, a travesty of justice, in violation of their mandated duty.

Our problem is that we have been unable to get to a court of law so a judge can rule on the matter and declare that we do have the right. We had hopes that the Morganroth Law firm would present this evidence, but their abandonment of our case was a setback that will work on our favor. So where do we go from here?

A new law firm representing us will need to research only two Texas laws, The Texas Property Code and Estate Law, also known the laws of Descent and Distribution, and “The Laws of Intestacy.” Based on their careful research one or both of these laws should contain the legal evidence needed. Our lawyers will present this research and ask the judge for a ruling. There is not a shred of doubt in our minds that the judge will rule in our favor.

No new state law needs to go to the legislature. None needed.

The Getty Compromise Settlement Agreement of 1986 gives the state the authority to collect unclaimed mineral estates, and hold them in perpetuity, until legal heirs come forth to file claims. They owe the heirs 35 years of production, and we will request substantial damages from the state for stonewalling our efforts.

We will also ask the state to set up a claim system for the future, but considering the inefficient and political actions of state officials and the legislature, this will take years to develop. We may request interim payments until then.

In summary, our new law firm will need to research two Texas State laws, take the results to a court of law, and have a judge rule in our favor. It is that simple.

Regards,
The Coalition Leaders

Below is the link to above article:

<https://voiceofchangenetwork.com/coalition-report-casmlgh-update-15-dec-18-2021/>

The group is accepting donations to help pay for current and future expenses. Let’s all do our part and help. Click on the link below for more information and on how to place your donations:

<https://voiceofchangenetwork.com/we-need-and-are-asking-for-your-support-please-read-this-important-update/>

Please stay tune, stay safe, stay connected and let us know how *you can help*.

“We cannot always expect justice to prevail but we must never cease to seek it.”

Respectfully,
Federico Blanco Balli